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CONTRACTOR OF THE

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE GROUP

INTELLIGENCE REPORT

COUNTRY China

CONFIDENT.

SUBJECT

Economic Information: General Su of Events, Eastern Shantung

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ORIGIN

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DATE:

INFO. 8-17 August 1946

DIST. 13 November 1946

PAGES 1

SUPPLEMENT

1. There is no indication of improvement in economic conditions in Tsingtao. Although incoming revenue is very large, taxes are so high that, according to a leading businessman, it is impossible to conduct a profitable business.

- 25X1X6 2. It has been reported shortage in Tsingtao was caused, not by a Communist blockade, but by the armed guards of General TING, Carrison Commander. These guards, stationed at every city gate, are said to exact such a high "squeeze" on incoming products that the farmers in outlying districts no longer make any effort to bring in foodstuffs.
 - 3. Customs officers are expressing considerable concern over the growing amount of smuggling now being carried on by various military officials. Boats which were turned over to the Chinese Government by the Americans are being used for this purpose. The boats are met at the docks by trucks with armed escert guards from the various military organizations within the city, and the contents are removed under armed protection. On 17 August a boat was met by an armed guard from the Second Garrison Headquarters, and the contraband cargo was taken from the ship and sold. The customs officials have protested without success to various military organizations.

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